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20 December 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Lt Colonel James C. Manatt

SUBJECT : Statement of Agreed Intelligence

Reference your request of 17 December 1956, the following statement represents community agreed intelligence:

1. Since about mid-1953, the Soviets have been constructing and equipping surface-to-air guided missile sites for the defense of Moscow. The sites are deployed around the city in two concentric rings with radii of 25 and 45 nautical miles respectively. There are a total of approximately 60 sites in the system. Each site has an armament capacity of approximately 3,600 missiles.
2. The missiles are large, about 25 to 30 feet long and about 3 feet in diameter. They are believed to be capable of carrying nuclear warheads, however the system is believed to have been developed primarily for the use of large high explosive warheads.
3. Rather unusual radar equipment enables the individual missile sites to have a relatively high rate of fire compared to one of our Nike missile installations. The Soviets have attained this feature at the expense of flexibility which necessitates the large number of sites in the system.
4. The maximum effective intercept range of the system against high altitude aircraft is about 65 nautical miles from the center of Moscow, or about 20 miles from the individual sites at 60,000 feet altitude. Performance is believed to be poor below about 20,000 feet.

USAF review(s) completed.

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5. The Moscow missile defense system is believed to be in the final stages of completion. Construction activity in the Leningrad area this year indicates the beginning of a similar system to be deployed around that city.

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GEORGE H. WILSON  
Lt Colonel, USAF  
Chairman, OMIC

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